

MINUTES

—OF THE—

TWENTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL SESSION

—OF THE—

ELIM BAPTIST ASSOCIATION,

—HELD WITH—

WALLACE BAPTIST CHURCH,

At Wallace, Escambia Co., Ala., September 8, 9 and 10, 1899.

OFFICERS:

J. T. FILLINGIM, MODERATOR.....Bluff Springs, Fla.
P. M. PRITCHETT, CLERK AND TREASURER....Bluff Springs, Fla.

The next session will be held with Atmore Baptist Church, at
Atmore, Ala., Friday before the third Sunday in October, 1900.

Montgomery, Ala.:
ALABAMA BAPTIST PRINT,
1899.

·LIST OF ORDAINED MINISTERS AND THEIR POST OFFICES.

J. L. Bryars.....	Perdido, Alabama.
J. H. McAnally.....	Atmore, "
J. T. Fillingim.....	Bluff Springs, Florida.
H. G. B. Ray.....	Canoe, Alabama.
A. M. Lowery.....	" "
W. N. Newberry	Wallace, "

A STANDING RESOLUTION OF ELIM ASSOCIATION.

Resolved, That any member of any church constituting this Association, when visiting a sister Association, shall be recognized as a Corresponding Messenger of this Association.

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

1. Appoint Committee to Read Letters.
2. Names of Delegates Enrolled.
3. Election of Officers.
4. Appoint Committee on Preaching.
5. Admission of New Churches.
6. Recognize Messengers from Corresponding Bodies.
7. Return Correspondence.
8. Invitation to Ministers of the Gospel present, not accredited to this Body, to seats with us.
9. Appoint Committees to Report during the Session.
10. Report of Committees Appointed at Last Session.
11. Appoint Committees to Report at Next Session.
12. Report of Committees, Present Session.
13. Motions and Resolutions.
14. Miscellaneous Business.
15. Appoint Time and Place of Next Meeting.
16. Treasurer's Report.
17. Disbursement of Funds on Hand.

COMMITTEES TO REPORT AT NEXT SESSION, AND POST OFFICE OF CHAIRMEN.

Ministerial Education—	W. W. Lowery, Atmore, Ala.	W. E. Ward, J. T. Hobbs.
Sunday Schools	D. M. Merritt, Olive, Fla.	J. T. Hobbs, J. S. Bryars.
Missions—	H. C. Killiam, Flomaton, Ala.	R. J. Bowman, E. B. Lee.
State of Religion—	J. V. Steadham, Atmore, Ala.	W. H. Cardwell, E. M. Jordan.
Temperance—	B. Miles, Jr., Flomaton, Ala.	J. W. Brewton, W. B. Thomley.
Periodicals and Publications—	Wm. Fox, Wallace, Ala.	W. S. Barker, W. T. Gibson.
Woman's Work—	J. A. Godwin, Atmore, Ala.	D. S. Sowell, C. J. Ward.

MINUTES.

FIRST DAY.

FRIDAY, September 8th, 1899.

The Elim Baptist Association was called to order by the Moderator, at 10 a. m., at the meeting house of the Wallace Baptist Church. Prayer by Rev. A. M. Lowery. Committee to read church letters: Bros. J. L. Bryars, A. M. Lowery and J. W. Jeter. After the reading, messengers were enrolled as follows:

Atmore—W. W. Lowery, William T. Brantly.

Antioch—D. R. Brown, J. T. Hobbs.

Bethsaida—Lewis Boon, J. M. Keller.

Blue Springs—Elias Beasley, William Beasley.

Canoe—R. N. Brown, A. M. Lowery.

Enon—G. M. Grimsley.

Judson—

Little Escambia—Levi Godwin.

Magnolia—E. M. Jordan, J. D. White, Isham Jordan, J. L. Jordan.

Mars Hill—J. V. Steadham, Alex Boon, W. T. Gibson.

Oak Grove—C. Hall, B. Hall, J. A. Godwin.

Olive—D. M. Merritt, W. S. Barker.

Pine Barren—C. J. Ward, W. E. Ward, J. A. Bryars, G. L. Stewart.

Pleasant Hill—J. T. Fillingim, P. R. McNeal, W. H. Cardwell, P. M. Pritchett.

Pine View—E. A. Godwin.

Perdido—J. L. Bryars, J. S. Havard.

Powelton—Letter—Not represented.

Rays Chapel—R. J. Bowman, J. W. Brewton, L. C. Bowman.

Sardis—J. W. Jeter, H. C. Killin, B. Miles, Jr., E. H. Atkinson.

Sullivan—

Wallace—T. J. Donald, Willie Donald, H. F. Hines.

Permanent organization effected by electing Rev. J. T. Fillingim Moderator, and P. M. Pritchett Clerk and Treasurer. Committee on preaching appointed to-wit: T. J. Donald, C. Hall, H. C. Killim, C. J. Ward and pastor J. L. Bryars, of Wallace church.

On motion the annual sermon was postponed until 11 a. m., September 9, 1899.

Petitionary letter from Pine View Missionary Baptist church was received, and the hand of fellowship was extended by the Moderator.

The report of Missionary Committee was set for 7:30 p. m., September 9th, 1899.

Rev. W. H. Hearn, from Cherokee Association, was recognized and invited to sit with us.

Committees to report at this session were appointed, to-wit:

Finance—A. M. Lowery, J. L. Jordan, J. A. Bryars.

Q. & R—Queries and Requests—R. J. Bowman, P. R. McNeal, J. V. Steadham.

Sabbath Schools—Alex Boon, J. W. Brewton.

Periodicals and Publications—Alex Boon and W. W. Lowery.

Woman's Work—D. M. Merritt.

Missions—D. M. Merritt.

Temperance—W. W. Lowery and Reuben Jordan.

Report on missions was received and laid on the table until 7:30 p. m., September 9th, 1899.

Association adjourned to meet at 2 p. m.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Association met at 2 p. m.—prayer by Rev. J. L. Bryars.

Rev. J. L. Bryars was appointed a committee of one to report on ministerial education, at this session.

REPORT OF PREACHING COMMITTEE.

Rev. J. T. Fillingim, Friday, 7:30 p. m.

Rev. Jean Vane, Sunday, 11 a. m.

Rev. J. W. Stewart, Sunday, 2 p. m.

A. M. Lowery, Sunday, 7:30 p. m.

Committee report on temperance received, and after discussion, adopted.

REPORT ON TEMPERANCE.

We your committee believe that drunkenness and the use of intoxicating liquors is on the decrease, but there is an amount still used to make it very annoying to christian people, who do not, and should not, use it. We would therefore recommend that the lines be strengthened, and a constant fight through prayer and the laws of our country, to rid ourselves of the demon—strong drink. Paul said, if eating meat was an offense to my brethren, I would eat no more meat forever.

W. W. LOWERY,

REUBEN JORDAN.

Sunday school report received and laid on the table to be taken up Sunday, 9 a. m.

State of religion report received and laid on the table, till Saturday, 9 a. m. Adjourned until 9 a. m., September 9, 1899.

 SECOND DAY.

Association called to order at 9 a. m. Prayer by Rev. W. W. Lowery.

Special order—Report of Committee on State of Religion.

STATE OF RELIGION

There are three evidences of religious growth and development, viz. Consecration, dedication and effort. These evidences abound throughout our entire work, more generally than ever before. The membership of our churches manifest more consecration, in a willingness to make sacrifices of time and business, to carry forward the Lord's work in our midst; manifest more dedication, in that they more fully recognize that their property is the Lord's, and they, as his stewards, must see to it that a proper proportion is set apart, for the carrying forward of His kingdom, in our midst; manifest more effort, in personally taking active part in all of the Lord's work, in our Association. Brethren, we believe our churches are moving along the lines by God approved, therefore increased spirituality and power in our churches, can be confidently looked for in the future.

J. V. STEADHAM, for Committee.

After discussion the report was adopted.

Rev. J. W. Stewart, of Evergreen, and Bros. E. P. Lovelace and M. F. Brooks, of Brewton, were admitted to seats with us.

Committee on Ministerial Education made the following report :

REPORT ON MINISTERIAL EDUCATION.

Your Committee is surprised to find so little interest manifested by our associated churches on the question of Ministerial Education. The hour has come for the churches to awaken from their sleep of indifference, on this pressing question. God has done great things for us and we should attempt great things for God.

It is God ordained—Heaven designed, that our ministers should be leaders, and the demand is imperative, that they have available assistance in preparing and equipping themselves for their great work. Our Colleges and Seminaries are offering splendid advantages; and every called of God preacher in our churches, should be allowed to grasp them. Therefore your Committee would urge upon all the churches to contribute to the treasury of the Ministerial Education Boards, for the furtherance of this important work.

J. L. BRYARS, for Committee.

Received and adopted.

Saturday, 11 a. m.—Annual sermon was preached by the Rev. J. L. Bryars—Luke 19:13, after which recess until 2:30 p. m.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Called to order at 2:30 p. m. Prayer by Rev. J. W. Stewart.

Brothers W. W. Lowery and Alex Boon appointed a committee to report instantan on periodicals and publications, which was as follows:

REPORT ON PERIODICALS AND PUBLICATIONS.

We think from reports made here, and of our knowledge, that there is not enough of our denominational papers taken and read among the brethren. We would recommend that we subscribe to and read such as the Alabama Baptist, and the Florida Baptist Witness; and for Sabbath Schools the Convention literature.

W. W. LOWERY, Chairman.
ALEX. BOON.

Adopted.

The Committee on Woman's Work report as follows:

REPORT ON WOMAN'S WORK.

The comparatively short time since they have been organized for work; they have been as great, if not the greatest, agency with which we are blessed in carrying on our missions and other christian work. We find, however, that there has not been as much accomplished through that agency as we would desire in our Association, for the past year. Yet we thank God for such helps, and recommend that the messengers, and especially the pastors of this Association, in their respective churches, encourage our women and assist them in better organizing for work; and we recommend that our sisters in each church organize the children and lead them in mission work.

D. M. MERRITT, Chairman.

The Committee on Queries and Requests report as follows:

REPORT ON QUERIES AND REQUESTS.

We find no Queries—but four requests to hold your next session with them, to-wit: Perdido, Olive, Oak Grove and Atmore churches. We recommend you hold your next session with Atmore Church.

R. J. BOWMAN, Chairman.

Adopted.

The Association ordered that the Constitution and Rules of Decorum be printed in the Minutes.

The following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That the thanks of the Elim Baptist Association be tendered to the good people of Wallace for the royal and liberal entertainment we have received at their hands; and to the Louisville and Nashville Railroad Co., for half rates provided over their Pensacola and Repton lines for all messengers and visitors in attendance.

The churches are requested to give number of male and female members in their church letters hereafter.

REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE.

Finance Committee reported as follows, which was adopted:

Received for Minutes.....	\$30 67
Missionary, Jean Vane.....	25 29
Baptist Orphanage, Evergreen....	16 61
Paid over to Treasurer....	<u>\$72 57</u>

On motion, the time of meeting was changed from Friday before the second Sunday in September, to Friday before the third Sunday in October.

Rev. J. T. Fillingim appointed to preach the next Annual Sermon, with A. M. Lowery as alternate.

Adjourned to meet at 7:30 p. m.

EVENING SESSION, 7:30 P. M.

Prayer by Rev. W. A. Newberry.

Report of Missionary Committee was received and read as follows:

REPORT OF MISSIONARY COMMITTEE.

To the Officers and Members of said Association :

GREETING--Dear Brethren: Your Missionary Committee respectfully submit the following report of work accomplished during the past associational year: In obedience to the instruction of the Association your committee employed the Rev. Jean Vane as missionary for all of his time at a compensation of \$50.00 per month. And he has faithfully labored for the entire year, as will appear from the following results: Number of new churches organized 2. Reorganized 1. Number of accessions to churches 179. Number of miles traveled 1796. Number of sermons preached 320. Days of service 312. Amount of money raised during the year for the work \$494.71. Amount expended on the work \$520.00, leaving a deficit in the treasury of \$25.29. Brother Vane requests your Committee to notify the Association not to consider his name in connection with the selection of a missionary for the ensuing year. In parting with Brother Vane we deem it proper to ask the Association to prepare, adopt and present to Brother Vane resolutions expressive of the Association's appreciation of the faithful work he has done within the bounds of our work. We herewith present a summary of the work accomplished by the Missionary Committee during the three years Brother Vane has been our efficient missionary:

Miles traveled by Missionary 5337; Sermons preached 1007; Money collected \$1,485.74; Churches organized and Reorganized 5; Members added to churches in our bounds through our Missionary 405; outside churches 162.

Your Committee deem these results worthy of the highest recognition on the part of the Association.

W. W. LOWERY, President Committee.

Further report of Committee:

We feel that we lose a great helper in the work, and one that we cannot readily replace; but we recommend the missionary spirit, and that collections be kept up until we can find a suitable man to put in the field.

W. W. LOWERY, Chairman.

J. A. GODWIN,

C. J. WARD,

Adopted.

Moderator appointed Brothers J. L. Bryars, P. L. Pritchett and H. C. Killiam to draft resolutions as to the association's appreciation of the missionary's work.

Messengers appointed as follows :

Pensacola Bay Association—Rev. J. L. Bryars, J. T. Fillingim.

Mobile Association—J. L. Bryars, J. T. Fillingim, J. A. Godwin,
Alex Boon.

State Convention, Alabama—J. L. Bryars, A. M. Lowery.

State Convention, Florida—J. T. Fillingim.

Members of the Missionary Committee for the ensuing year :

Antioch—J. T. Hobbs, Canoe, Ala.

Atmore—W. W. Lowery, Atmore, Ala.

Bethsaida—J. D. Brown, Steadham, Ala.

Blue Springs—William Beasley, Wallace, Ala.

Canoe—W. C. Hall, Canoe, Ala.

Enon—A. T. Lee, Gateswood, Ala.

Judson—Thomas Ficklin, Atmore, Ala.

Little Escambia—James Godwin, Flomaton, Ala.

Magnolia—Isham Jordan, Flomaton, Ala.

Mars Hill—J. V. Steadham, Atmore, Ala.

Oak Grove—J. A. Godwin, Atmore.

Olive—D. M. Merritt, Olive, Fla.

Perdido—Lewis Thombly, Perdido, Ala.

Pleasant Hill—P. M. Pritchett, Bluff Springs, Fla.

Pine Barren—J. W. Bartley, Atmore, Ala.

Piñe View—Elisha Godwin, Hammac, Ala.

Powellton—John Coker, Jr., Roberts, Fla.

Pine Grove—T. A. White,

Rays Chapel—R. J. Bowman, McDavid, Fla.

Sardis—H. C. Killiam, Flomaton, Ala.

Sullivan—Frank Hubbard, Wilson, Ala.

Wallace—D. S. Sowell, Wallace, Ala.

Adjourned to meet Sunday at 9 a. m.

MORNING SESSION.

Association called to order at 9 a. m. Prayer by Bro. M. F. Brooks. Sunday school report taken up, discussed and returned to committee to report at 2 p. m. Missionary Rev. Jean Vane, at 11 a. m., preached from Hebrews 6:1, 2 and 3.

Missionary offering \$25.29.

Recess for dinner, to meet at 1:30 p. m.

Met at 1:30 p. m. Rev. J. W. Stewart preached from 30th Psalm.

Offering to Baptist Orphanage \$16.61.

Auditor's report received, as follows:

AUDITOR'S REPORT.

I certify that I have carefully examined the books, accounts and vouchers of Treasurer Thomblly, and find them correct in every detail, and all moneys properly accounted for.

R. N. BROWN, Auditor.

Adopted.

Sunday school report received and adopted.

REPORT ON SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

We find 343 pupils were enrolled at last report. Now we find from the letters there are 862—an increase of 19. Though it is small, we feel thankful that it is a gain instead of a loss. We also find that at our last session, there was reported amount paid for literature \$89.48, and for this year, \$83.17, and we recommend that the churches take due notice of these facts, and renew their efforts on this line.

ALEX BOON, Chairman.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE TO DRAFT RESOLUTIONS.

Resolved, That the Elim Baptist Association, in parting with her missionary, Rev. Jean Vane, feel that he is one who has the work of the Master at heart. He has served as missionary for the past three years, and has performed faithful and loyal work, in and out of season. Our relations with him have been pleasant and smooth. Coming among us as a stranger, he has won our hearts and confidence, and we feel that in nowise has this confidence been misplaced. Therefore we

heartily recommend him, wherever he may go, as a christian gentleman and faithful minister of the gospel, ever working for the up-building of the Master's cause.

J. L. BRYARS,
P. M. PRITCHETT,
H. C. KILLIM.

Adopted and ordered that a copy be given to the missionary, signed by the Moderator and Clerk.

Report on missions received, to-wit:

REPORT ON MISSIONS.

That from the evidence and data we have been able to procure, we find that the mission cause, in all its departments, Foreign, Home, State and Associational has been wonderfully blessed and prospered of God throughout the past Associational year. We should catch new courage and enthusiasm from the signal victories won, and press on to greater conquests, even at the price of greater sacrifices. We earnestly plead that each messenger and minister, in attendance here, return to their fields of labor, determined to advocate more earnestly and give more freely to the cause of missions.

D. M. MERRITT.

Adopted.

On motion the Association instructed the Missionary Committee to employ Rev. J. L. Bryars as missionary for half of his time, to be devoted entirely among the destitute places, at the rate of \$50 per month.

Missionary Committee met and organized. W. W. Lowery elected President and P. M. Pritchett Clerk and Treasurer. The following places were selected for meeting:

- 1st. meeting at Sardis.
- 2nd " " Ray's Chapel.
- 3d. " " Olive.
- 4th. " " Pine Barren.

The meetings to open on Saturday, 10 a. m., before the 5th Sunday.

REPORT OF TREASURER.

Amount received for minutes	-	-	-	-	-	-	\$30 67
" " " missionary	-	-	-	-	-	-	25 29
" " " Baptist Orphanage	-	-	-	-	-	-	16 61
Total	-	-	-	-	-	-	<u>\$72 57</u>
Amount paid missionary	-	-	-	-	-	\$25 29	
" " J. W. Stewart for B. O.	-	-	-	-	-	16 61	
						<u>\$41 90</u>	41 90
Balance to be used for minutes	-	-	-	-	-	-	<u>\$30 67</u>

On motion the Clerk was instructed to retain \$10 for his services, and use the balance, \$20.67, in postage and printing minutes.

On motion the Association adjourned to meet with Atmore church, Atmore, Alabama, on Friday, 10 a. m., before the 3d Sunday in October, A. D. 1900.

P. M. PRITCHETT,
Clerk.

J. T. FILLINGIM,
Moderator.

STATISTICS OF ELIM BAPTIST ASSOCIATION—1899.

CHURCHES.	COUNTY AND STATE.	PASTOR.	CLERK.	CLERK'S Post Office.	Membership Last Reported.														S. S. Pupils.	Preaching Sunday.
					Increase							Decrease								
					By Baptism.	By Letter.	By Restoration.	By Letter.	By Exclusion.	By Emissure.	By Death.	By Baptism.	By Letter.	By Restoration.	By Letter.	By Exclusion.	By Emissure.	By Death.		
Antioch.....	Escambia, Ala.....	A. M. Lowery.....	R. A. Hobbs.....	Canoe, Ala.....	30	3	3	3	3	3	39	43	2d							
Atmore.....	".....	J. L. Bryars.....	G. G. Beatty.....	Atmore, Ala.....	72	10	10	10	10	10	84	84	3							
Bethesda.....	".....	W. H. Hearn.....	C. N. Coker.....	Stedham, Ala.....	22	1	1	1	1	1	23	23	3							
Blue Springs.....	".....	J. M. Hall.....	W. F. Fox.....	Wallace, Ala.....	11	7	7	7	7	7	17	53	3							
Canoe.....	".....	J. M. Hall.....	W. T. Hall.....	Canoe, Ala.....	54	1	1	1	1	1	53	60	4							
Enon.....	Fla.....	A. M. Lowery.....	A. T. Lee.....	Atmore, Ala.....	56	11	11	11	11	11	66	33	1							
Judson.....	Ala.....	J. E. Holley.....	T. W. Ficklin.....	Atmore, Ala.....	42	1	1	1	1	1	42	36	1							
Little Es-ambia.....	".....	W. N. Newberry.....	A. J. Noles.....	Flomaton, Ala.....	44	8	8	8	8	8	43	24	3							
Magnolia.....	".....	J. L. Byars.....	E. M. Jordan.....	Sardine, Ala.....	76	14	14	14	14	14	93	39	4							
Mars Hill.....	".....	J. T. Fillingim.....	J. V. Steadham.....	Atmore, Ala.....	56	2	2	2	2	2	53	33	2							
Marble Grove.....	Fla.....	J. T. Fillingim.....	W. M. Ageron.....	Pine Barren, Fla.....	61	2	2	2	2	2	59	61	3							
Olive.....	".....	A. M. Lowery.....	I. S. Richburg.....	Morrison, Ala.....	26	2	2	2	2	2	38	38	3							
Pardido.....	Baldwin, Ala.....	J. T. Fillingim.....	G. M. Gentry.....	Bluff Springs, Fla.....	99	1	1	1	1	1	100	35	1							
Pine Pleasant Hill.....	Escambia, Fla.....	J. L. Bryars.....	W. J. Grimsar.....	Atmore, Ala.....	129	3	3	3	3	3	104	100	2							
Pineview.....	".....	W. H. Hearn.....	Elisha Godwin.....	Hammac, Ala.....	79	7	7	7	7	7	84	60	2							
Pine Grove.....	Ala.....	A. M. Lowery.....	E. Conway.....	Hammar, Ala.....	4	4	4	4	4	4	9	51	1							
Ray's Chapel.....	Pine Grove.....	A. M. Lowery.....	J. W. Brewton.....	McDavid, Fla.....	25	11	11	11	11	11	36	36	3							
Town.....	Fla.....	J. L. Taylor.....	John T. Coker.....	Roberts, Fla.....	41	1	1	1	1	1	41	41	2							
Towerton.....	".....	J. E. Hollis.....	B. Miles, Jr.....	Flomaton, Ala.....	22	1	1	1	1	1	20	17	4							
Sardis.....	Ala.....	J. E. Hollis.....	C. M. Sowell.....	Wallace, Ala.....	73	7	7	7	7	7	76	76	2							
Sullivan.....	Escambia, Ala.....	J. L. Bryars.....	C. M. Sowell.....	Wallace, Ala.....	46	4	4	4	4	4	50	50	1							
Wallace.....	Escambia, Ala.....	J. L. Bryars.....	C. M. Sowell.....	Wallace, Ala.....	46	4	4	4	4	4	50	50	1							

* Not stated.

CONSTITUTION OF ELIM ASSOCIATION.

ARTICLE I.

SECTION 1. This Association shall be composed of delegates chosen by the different churches of our Union from among their members, of whom each church shall be entitled to three until her membership numbers fifty, after which one delegate for every additional fifty members, or fraction thereof.

SEC. 2. Members thus chosen and convened shall be known as the Elim Baptist Association.

ARTICLE II.

SECTION 1. This Association shall annually, upon convening, proceed to choose from the members present a Moderator, a Clerk and Treasurer.

SEC. 2. The Moderator shall preside over the deliberations of the body and keep order.

SEC. 3. The Clerk shall keep a correct minute of the proceedings of the Association, and cause the same to be published.

SEC. 4. The Treasurer shall safely keep all money paid to him by the Finance Committee, or otherwise, and pay the same only on order of the Association and take receipt for the same.

ARTICLE III.

SECTION 1. This Association shall have no power to interfere or infringe upon the internal rights and privileges of the churches; but shall be only an advisory body and convention of the churches to answer such queries as are lawfully sent up by the churches, but shall pass no resolutions touching the liberty of the churches or individual members thereof, but each church shall be considered a sovereign body. Though this body may give such advice as will strengthen the union and promote the happiness of the churches.

ARTICLE IV.

SECTION 1. There shall be no matter of dealing introduced by any individual members, but it shall be sent up by the churches clearly set

forth in writing. Then the Association may take it under consideration, and a decision by a majority shall be an advisory answer.

ARTICLE V.

SECTION 1. New churches may be admitted into the union only by messengers bearing letters of application. If on examination, they be found orderly and orthodox, upon their reception the Moderator shall extend to their delegates the right hand of fellowship.

ARTICLE VI.

SECTION 1. The churches shall transmit to each annual session of the Association written communications specifying the names of their messengers with full statistics of their church since last session, also whole number then in fellowship.

ARTICLE VII.

SECTION 1. This Association shall open and continue a correspondence with such of her sister Associations as she may deem proper.

ARTICLE VIII.

SECTION 1. This Association may exclude from the Union any church that shall violate the Constitution or depart from the orthodox principles of the Gospel.

ARTICLE IX.

SECTION 1. This Association upon the report of any delegate of the disorder of any of the churches, shall appoint a committee to inquire into the matter, and to report at the next annual meeting of the Association.

ARTICLE X.

SECTION 1. The Association shall have a fund to be supplied by contribution, voluntary or otherwise, as may be gratuitously contributed.

SEC. 2. All money contributed to the churches shall be transmitted by their messengers and paid over to the Finance Committee, who shall place the same in the hands of the Treasurer, taking his receipt and at every annual session make a fair report thereof.

ARTICLE XI.

SECTION 1. All matters that relate to the secular business and progress of this Association as a body must be introduced by motion.

ARTICLE XII.

SECTION 1. Both officers and members of this Association shall be governed by the Rules of Decorum annexed to this Constitution.

SEC. 2. Said Rules may be altered or amended as the Association may think proper provided such alteration or amendments do not conflict with this Constitution.

ARTICLE XIII,

SECTION 1. Any proposed alteration or amendment to this Constitution shall be spread upon the minutes, and at the next annual session, with concurrence of two-thirds of the members present—shall be adopted or amended,

RULES OF DECORUM.

1. The Association shall be opened with prayer.
2. The officers of this body shall be chosen by the suffrages of the members present.
3. The Moderator shall be considered a judge of order, and shall have a right to call to order at any time.
4. Any member dissatisfied with his decision, may appeal to the Association, on the same day, but at no other time.
- 5. But one person shall speak at a time, who shall rise to his feet, and, on obtaining permission, may proceed.
6. The Moderator, when addressed by a member for permission to speak, shall signify the same by naming the person, or otherwise.
7. No member shall be interrupted while speaking, except he depart from the subject under debate, or use words of personal reflection.
8. Every motion, made and seconded, shall come under the consideration of the Association, and must be decided, or withdrawn, by the person who made it, before another motion will be in order, except to adjourn.
9. When a question is taken up, after allowing time for debate, the Moderator shall put the question fairly to the Association for decision.
10. Any member wishing to retire, shall first obtain permission from the Moderator.
11. No member shall speak more than twice on the same proposition, without permission of the Association, nor more than once, until every member wishing to speak, shall have spoken: nor shall any proposition be made to close a subject, until the debate has been carried through.
12. The appellation of Brother shall be used in the Association, by members, in their address one to another.
13. The roll of names of delegates shall be called on Sunday morning, and no names shall appear on the minutes, who do not answer, unless leave of absence be granted, or satisfactory excuse be rendered.

14. No member shall be tolerated in any practice, which shall tend to interrupt public speaking.

15. The Moderator shall be entitled to the same privilege of speaking, as any other member, provided he shall appoint some other member to fill his chair, while he is speaking; but he shall not vote on any question, unless the association be equally divided.

16. Any member violating these rules, shall be reproved by the Moderator, at discretion, but only on the breach made.

17. These rules may be altered or amended, by a majority of the members present, as provided for in the Constitution.

